

## **CLAIMS**

What I claim as my invention is:

1. An automated method to improve an organization's safety culture by enhancing organizational communications, said method consisting of a means of collecting and communicating issues and concerns from workers and managers wherein said communications may be:
  - initiated by any worker or manager at any time;
  - specifically solicited or accepted for input on a case-basis or periodically;
  - submitted with or without originator anonymity;
  - submitted with or without the approval of other workers, managers, or supervisors;
  - processed by one or more computer software programs and thereby made available (such as through the use of databases and email) directly to senior managers, the public, or regulators;
2. Claim 1, wherein the mentioned computer software program or programs also include a means of peer-review and concurrence, thus increasing issue and concern validity and thereby providing a means of reducing or avoiding reprisals against individuals who heretofore (without the current invention) would be designated as

“whistleblowers”, said peer reviews being accomplished by computer software means

(within the current state of the art) such as by use of:

- peer identification data fields such as names or employee numbers, or
- function descriptors and associated tallies (so many peers for and so many peers against) for inclusion in databases and reports as a separate means for indicating functional peer-review status;

3. Claim 1, wherein the mentioned computer software program or programs include a means to present a summary of said issues and concerns for the organization, wherein the said summary may be examined and safety culture related conclusions reached by regulators and those persons having an economic interest in the organization, thus enabling an additional means external to the organization for enhancing the safety culture within the organization based on or resulting from the methods of the current invention.